IN THE CLAIMS:

Rewrite the claims as follows:

1-14.   (Canceled).

15.   (Currently Amended) A method of searching conversations, comprising:

at a server having one or more processors and memory storing programs executed by the one or more processors:

receiving a search query from a client;

identifying a plurality of conversations relevant to the search query, the plurality of conversations including at least two conversations each having two or more messages sharing a common set of characteristics that meet predefined criteria and a respective conversation identifier, wherein the predefined criteria includes a subject of the two or more messages and information other than the subject, a reply-to field, a references field and a message identifier field of the two or more messages; and

returning to the client a list of the identified conversations as a search result to the search query

as a search result to the search query, returning to the client for display, a list of the identified conversations, each conversation in the list being represented as a single item in the list of conversations, at least one of the conversations in the list comprising two or more electronic messages from distinct senders.

16.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein identifying the plurality of conversations includes identifying a first message relevant to the search query.

17.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, 16, further comprising associating the first message to a respective conversation based at least in part on a subject of the message and information other than the subject of the message wherein the single item representing a respective conversation includes a list of sender identifiers corresponding to senders who have sent messages in the conversation.

18.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, further comprising associating the first message to the respective conversation based in part on information other than a

normalized version of the subject of the message ~~wherein the list of sender identifiers are~~ wherein the list of sender identifiers are ordered according to their respective message arrival time.

19.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, ~~16, further comprising associating the~~ ~~first message to a respective conversation based at least in part on a subject of the message~~ ~~and information other than one or both of a references field and an in-reply-to field~~ wherein at least one sender identifier is represented by an icon or unique character string distinct from names of the senders.

20.   (Currently Amended) A method of searching messages, comprising:

at a server system having one or more processors and memory storing programs executed by the one or more processors:

searching a message repository to identify two or more messages relevant to a search query, wherein each identified message is associated with a respective conversation of a plurality of conversations, each conversation having a respective conversation identifier, wherein at least one respective conversation of the plurality of conversations comprises two or more messages sharing a common set of characteristics that meet predefined criteria ~~and~~ ~~wherein the predefined criteria includes a subject of the two or more messages and~~ ~~information other than the subject, a reply-to field, a references field and a message identifier~~ ~~field of the two or more messages;~~

identifying the respective conversation identifiers of the conversations associated with the identified messages;

creating a list of two or more conversations, each of the conversations in the list corresponding to a respective identified conversation identifier; and

producing ,for display at a client, at least a portion of the list of two or more conversations as [[the]] a search result, each conversation in the list being represented as a single item in the list of conversations, at least one of the conversations in the list comprising two or more electronic messages from distinct senders.

21.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, ~~further comprising associating a~~ ~~respective message to a conversation in the plurality of conversations based in part on~~ ~~information other than a subject of the message~~ wherein the single item representing a respective conversation includes a list of sender identifiers corresponding to senders who have sent messages in the conversation.

22.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, 20, further comprising associating a respective message to a conversation in the plurality of conversations based in part on information other than a normalized version of a subject reference of the message wherein at least one sender identifier is represented by an icon or unique character string distinct from names of the senders.

23-31. (Canceled)

32.   (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium, storing one or more programs for execution by one or more processors at a server system, the one or more programs comprising:

        instructions for receiving a search query from a client;

        instructions for identifying a plurality of conversations relevant to the search query, the plurality of conversations including at least two conversations each having two or more messages sharing a common set of characteristics that meet predefined criteria and a respective conversation identifier, wherein the predefined criteria includes a subject of the two or more messages and information other than the subject, a reply to in-reply-to field, a references field and a message identifier field of the two or more messages; and

        instructions for returning to the client for display a list of the identified conversations as a search result to the search query, each conversation in the list being represented as a single item in the list of conversations, at least one of the conversations in the list comprising two or more electronic messages from distinct senders.

33.   (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 32, wherein the instructions for identifying a plurality of conversations include instructions for identifying a first message relevant to the search query.

34.   (Currently Amended) The computer readable storage medium of claim 32, 33, further comprising instructions for associating the first message to a respective conversation based at least in part on a subject of the message and information other than the subject of the message wherein the single item representing a respective conversation includes a list of sender identifiers corresponding to senders who have sent messages in the conversation.

35. (Currently Amended) The computer readable storage medium of claim 34, ~~further comprising instructions for associating the first message to the respective conversation based in part on information other than a normalized version of the subject of the message~~ wherein the list of sender identifiers are ordered according to their respective message arrival time.

36. (Currently Amended) The computer readable storage medium of claim 34, ~~further comprising instructions for associating the first message to a respective conversation based at least in part on a subject of the message and information other than one or both of a references field and an in-reply-to field~~ wherein at least one sender identifier is represented by an icon or unique character string distinct from names of the senders.

37. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium, storing one or more programs for execution by one or more processors, the one or more programs comprising:

instructions for searching a message repository to identify two or more messages relevant to a search query, wherein each identified message is associated with a respective conversation of a plurality of conversations, each conversation having a respective conversation identifier, wherein at least one respective conversation of the plurality of conversations comprises two or more messages sharing a common set of characteristics that meet predefined criteria and wherein the predefined criteria includes a subject of the two or more messages and information other than the subject, a ~~reply-to~~ in-reply-to field, a references field and a message identifier field of the two or more messages;

instructions for identifying conversation identifiers of the conversations associated with the identified messages;

instructions for creating a list of two or more conversations, each of the two or more conversations corresponding to a respective identified conversation identifier; and

instructions for producing for display the list of two or more conversations as ~~[[the]]~~ a search result, each conversation in the list being represented as a single item in the list of conversations, at least one of the conversations in the list comprising two or more electronic messages from distinct senders.

38-40. (Canceled)

41. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the predefined criteria includes a subject of the two or more messages and information other than the subject, a in-reply-to field, a references field and a message identifier field of the two or more messages.

42.   (New) The method of claim 20, wherein the predefined criteria includes a subject of the two or more messages and information other than the subject, a in-reply-to field, a references field and a message identifier field of the two or more messages.

43.   (New) The computer readable storage medium of claim 32, wherein the predefined criteria includes a subject of the two or more messages and information other than the subject, a in-reply-to field, a references field and a message identifier field of the two or more messages.

44.   (New) The computer readable storage medium of claim 37, wherein the predefined criteria includes a subject of the two or more messages and information other than the subject, a in-reply-to field, a references field and a message identifier field of the two or more messages.